72 JAPAN.

As we go on, we notice that some Japanese methods of work seem to be the direct opposites of ours. There is a carpenter planing a board. He pulls the plane toward him, instead of pushing it from him as our carpenters do; and when he uses the drawing knife he pushes it instead of pulling it, as would seem to us to be the natural way. The American builder begins his house with the foundation. The Japanese builder makes the roof first. He puts



upon a scaffolding of poles, and then fills in the framework beneath. The logs are often brought to the building, and the boards sawed out by hand as they are needed. In the lumber yards of Japan the sawmill is an almond-eyed, barelegged man, who stands on top of a log, or beneath it, and pulls or pushes away with

it together in pieces

the saw until he has cut the log into boards.

We find that Osaka has a vast trade. It may be called the New York of Japan, for it is the commercial capital of the empire. The city itself has a population of about five hundred thousand, and with the manufacturing villages which make up its suburbs, it contains more than a million people. It has many great wholesale establishments and hundreds of large retail stores.

In its stock exchanges we learn something of Japanese trade, and we find that Japan sells to other nations every As we go on, we notice that some Japanese methods of work seem to be the direct opposites of ours. There is a carpenter planing a board. He pulls the plane toward him, instead of pushing it from him as our carpenters do; and when he uses the drawing knife he pushes it instead of pulling it, as would seem to us to be the natural way. The American builder begins his house with the foundation. The Japanese builder makes the roof first. He puts



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